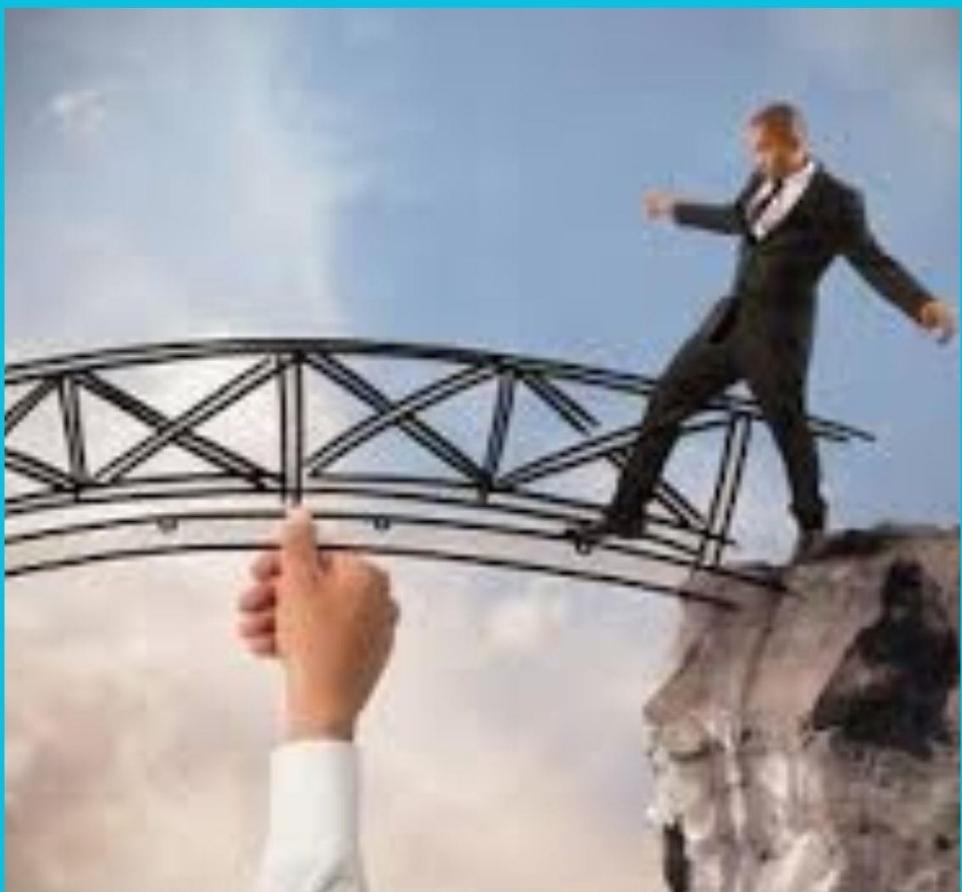


Impediments



*Francisco C. Xavier
Emmanuel*

IMPEDIMENTS

“Let us throw off everything that hinders and the sin that so easily entangles. And let us run with perseverance the race marked out for us.”

Paul (Hebrews 12:1)

Wherever you go on Earth, carrying the vase of your faith, pouring it out in good works, you will always find impediments in bulk, making your tasks difficult.

Today, it is the failure of the initial attempts of progress. Tomorrow, it will be the fellow that fails.

Later, the hostile persecution of your ideal.

You will feel afflicted with the bile of many lips that deserve your esteem.

From time to time, you will suffer from the incomprehension of others.

Periodically, you will find a thousand obstacles at the forefront, inducing you to inertia or negation.

Despite that, the career they propose to us should unfold on the route of permanent good.

What should we do with people and circumstances that impel us to backwardness and immobility?

The apostle of the Gentiles responds, categorically: “Let us throw off everything that hinders.”

Putting the difficulty on the sidelines, though, does not mean despising the opinions of the others when they are respectable; or giving up the common struggle.

It means respecting each individuality in their position; it is sharing the noblest angle of the Good Fight, with our best collaboration for the general improvement.

And, inwardly, in the intimacy of the heart, proceeding with Jesus, today, tomorrow and always, working and serving, learning and loving, until the divine light shines in our consciousness, as much as we are already unconsciously inside it.